**What is an Annotated Bibliography?**

A list of citations for books, articles, websites, and other materials where each citation is accompanied by a brief descriptive and evaluative statement, called an annotation.

**Why Annotations?**

An annotated bibliography is a tool for exploring a topic of interest. The process of reading and reflecting on the materials you find in the gathering part of the research process can help you understand the topic, identify multiple perspectives, explore different methods used to investigate the topic, and give you ideas for developing the thesis for your paper.

**How are Annotations Created?**

1. Locate and record the citations for articles, books, and other materials you will use for your paper. You need to gather enough sources to represent a range of perspectives on your topic.

2. Create the citation using the appropriate style (MLA). Your citation should be saved in Noodle Tools.

3. Write the annotation considering the questions below. Keep it short but be very complete

**Answer the following questions about your source. Utilize your responses to create your annotation paragraph-you should have between 150-200 words evaluating your source.**

1. Summarize and describe – What is the source? Web page, book, journal article? Or… ? What is it about? What does it include?

2. Evaluate – What is the quality of the source? Popular or scholarly? Is it biased or balanced? Current or out of date?

3. What education, experience or background does the author have which contributes to their being an authority on the topic? Why is it credible or not?

4. Who is the intended audience for the book or article and how does that influence how the information is presented?

5. How does this work contribute to your topic? What information is useful (or not useful?) What are you using this source for? How does it compare to your other sources?